

A REPRESENTATIVE CLUB WOMAN.

Prominent in Social and Club Circles
—Active in Charitable Work, and in
Measures for Bettering the Condition
of the Women of the Race Generally

The subject of our sketch, Mrs. Amanda Miller, is a native of the state of Georgia, but has resided in New York City long enough to become a full fledged New Yorker, though retaining all of her Southern characteristics for genuine hospitality for her friends, and sympathy for the stranger, and the unfortunate who have a claim upon her kind and generous heart. She is a woman of strong convictions, loving the right—hating shams of all kinds, and fearless in her views. While in favor of colored women organizing for mutual benefit she believes that better results would be obtained if all social barriers were cut away, and the reputable women of the race work together for a common end. Unassuming in manner and domestic in her habits, Mrs. Miller enjoys the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends who do not underestimate the value of her services in charitable, and club work, among the colored people of New York city.

In 1881, when a number of misguided colored people from the South, were persuaded to leave their happy (?) homes and go to Liberia, and got no further than New York city which they reached, in a destitute condition financially, and physically, this good woman was one of the very first to go to their relief, and minister to the wants of these sick and hungry people. A committee of which she was a member took charge of these unfortunates and cared for them while they remained in New York city.

When Victoria Earle Matthews the famous journalist, and strong writer, was invited to deliver an address at the convention of the Christian Endeavorers in San Francisco, Cal., in 1891, Mrs. Miller and Miss Alice Ruth Moore, now Mrs. Paul Laurence Dunbar, conceived and successfully put in operation the plan of raising a sum of money for presentation to Mrs. Matthews as a testimonial, in appreciation of the honor thus conferred upon her as well as on the colored race. They enlisted the co-operation of the public-spirited women and formed a committee under the name of the "Loyal Friends" of which Mrs. Miller was made chairman and Miss Moore, secretary. Their efforts were gratifyingly successful, and Mrs. Matthews went to the Pacific coast with a substantial sum raised by them for her benefit and as an expression of their good will and esteem.

The Loyal Friends, subsequently, became a permanent organization, and Mrs. Miller was elected as its first president. Her rare tact, sound judgment combined with executive and administrative abilities of a high order, contributed in no small degree towards making it a flourishing body. During the Spanish-American war the sufferings of our soldiers appealed so strongly to the sympathies of the "Loyal Friends," that it was decided to take up relief work, under the auspices of the Red Cross Society.

Receiving the proper authorization the club became auxiliary No. 69 N. R. C. S. Mrs. Miller took an active part in this work and had the gratification of knowing that the efforts of her self and associates were greatly appreciated by the officials at the National Red Cross Headquarters. On the termination of the war and the subsequent disbandment of the auxiliaries, the club resumed its regular routine of

work. Having served three terms as President Mrs. Miller declined a re-nomination for that office.

A second party of refugees from the South bound for Liberia, were compelled to remain in New York nearly two months waiting for remittances down home to enable them to remove with more celerity and certainty. Mrs. Miller and the "Loyal Friends" were most active in their efforts to relieve their necessities, and a handsome sum was appropriated from the treasury of the "Loyal Friends" and applied to their use.

Mrs. Miller is also a member of the Loyal Union which contributed to the relief of Miss Ida B. Wells when this lady was driven by a mob from Tennessee for defending her race against the falsehoods and slanders of the Negro haters of that state.

She was a charter member of the colored woman's Business Club of New York city but resigned from it on ac-



MRS. AMANDA MILLER.

count of the club's action in discriminating between domestics and those working in higher fields of labor, believing that an organization formed by colored women to further their interests should not draw such a line. Mrs. Miller is the wife of Dr. Thomas S. P. Miller who is one of the leading Negro physicians in Greater New York, a graduate of Howard University, a South Carolinian by birth, and gentleman three hundred and sixty-five days in the year. Their domestic life is characterized by harmony and happiness and their cosy residence in West 37th street is a haven of rest and a joy forever to the way worn traveller from the North or South.

I don't think I ever saw two people who are so sincerely attached to each other, as Dr. and Mrs. Miller or who are more generous and hospitable to the stranger within their gates. I have known them for quite twenty years and whenever I go to New York I find myself at home in their house and an absence of restraint and diffidence which is true Southerner despises to run up against when abroad in the land. The good that Mrs. Miller has done and is doing in her own way toward the uplift of her unfortunate women and girls of the race in New York city through organizations and individually is a splendid tribute to her character, as a high minded, noble hearted, generous woman. The race is not entirely lost when it can produce such women as Mrs. Amanda Miller—and there are scores of them all over this country—despite the lying slanders of a thing calling himself a man, who has recently assailed the character of every Negro woman and maiden in his own autobiography.

BRUCE GRIT.

QUEEN OF THE NIGHT.

(For The Colored American.)

Tall, black, beautiful is she,
My mystical Queen of the night,
With Kaffir gold and Kimberly gems,
Barbarically bedight.
The secret of her dark continent,
In amorous ambush lies,
In the fateful fascination
Of her unfathomed eyes.
Her regal grace and majesty,
Serene attest her right,
To the royal robes of mystery
And the starry crown of night.

—By G. ALLEN THORNTON.

A "Word" From the Directress of the "White Testimonial."

Mr. Editor:—

Please allow us space in your valuable paper, to thank the press of this city and country, for their able support in the testimonial to Hon. George H. White, March 22nd. We feel obligated to the pastor and trustees of Metropolitan A. M. E. church, for the use of that spacious edifice; also to all who contributed for the token presented; the participants in the exercises, those who favored us with their presence, or aided in any capacity, and our absent sympathizers from whom many strong letters have been received.

A \$150 sterling silver tea service was presented in behalf of the Ladies of the Memorial Home Association and Citizens of the District of Columbia. Receipts from subscription blanks show \$156 24. Ella M. Boston, chairman Joint Forces. Auditing committee, Miss M. L. Jordan, Mrs. A. W. Tancil and Mr. F. G. Manly. The following letter is self-explanatory.

Washington, D. C., March 23, 1901.
Miss Ella M. Boston, Supt. of National Memorial Home Association, and Associates, and the Citizens of the District of the Columbia,

Dear Friends:—I take this method of expressing to you my deep appreciation and heartfelt thanks for the magnificent testimonial tendered me last night. I prize the gift very highly and hope to retain it during my natural life and leave it as an heirloom to those of my family who may survive me. But I prize even more highly, if possible, the sentiments expressed on that occasion by those chosen to speak for you expressing the confidence reposed in me, your estimate of me as a man, and my humble services to the public. It shall be one of the efforts of my life to live up to and fulfill the estimate placed upon me. I shall always revert to this occasion as one of the greatest pleasures of my life, and as one of the green oasis of refreshment one comes across in his travels through the burning sands of this inconstant world.

With sentiments of the highest esteem and wishes for you all, health, happiness and prosperity, I have the honor to remain

Yours very sincerely,
Geo. H. White.

PULLMAN PORTER'S LUCK.

New York, N. Y. April 11, 1901.

George W. Thurston, a colored Pullman car porter, has received a tip of nearly \$100,000, which breaks all records. For attention paid Mrs. Eliza Jane Evans, a white woman, who was frequently a passenger on his car, he has been principal beneficiary of an estate valued at nearly \$100,000. Her husband, from whom she separated several years ago is disinherited. The other relatives are left only \$1 each. The actions of Mrs. Evans have caused a great deal of gossip in the circle of which she was a member and a contest of the will has begun by Mr. Evans, her divorced husband, in the Surrogate court. Mr. Evans' attorneys allege that Mrs. Evans was of unsound mind and the execution of the will was obtained by undue influence.

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